



Genocide, war and imperialism

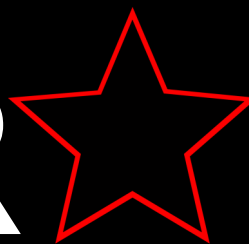


Capitalisms Useful & Dangerous Idiots



Public transport Strike

BLACK STAR



GENERAL STRIKE!



FUCK THE POLITICIANS- VICTORY TO THE WORKERS!

Organise! stand in solidarity with the 170,000 plus workers on strike today who have successfully brought the North to a standstill to demand long overdue pay increases in the face of the ongoing 'cost of living crisis'. While some have attempted to use workers as pawns in a game designed to get the DUP back into Stormont, effectively holding us all to ransom, concerted strike action is what will get the results we demand. This is a struggle to claw back years of real terms wage cuts in the midst of punishing increases in our living costs. It is a struggle for basic dignity when so many of us are struggling.

What do we think of Tory attempts to use this struggle to pressure the DUP back to Stormont? Simply, they can fuck off! We are workers not pawns. None of the politicians, including those visiting picket lines or showing up at rallies today give a fuck about us. The Tory's certainly don't, nor do the DUP, or Sinn Féin (both enacted anti-worker legislation, privatisation and cuts when in power), the SDLP and UUP are no better, Alliance want the poor to be taxed for their water!

Chris Heaton-Harris, the double barrel scumbag has claimed the strike will be 'disruptive for people across Northern Ireland'. As disruptive as

years of attacks on working conditions, wages, pensions, public services, benefits? As disruptive as soaring homelessness and dependence on food banks? He says the money to sort this is there so pay up! Chris and his ilk, bosses and politicians are on notice. We won't keep tolerating this shit without fighting back.

As for a return to Stormont - fuck that. Long live 'norn irr' without a government!

The power to effect real change has always been in the hands of the working class - today we relearn that lesson.

SOLIDARITY IS STRENGTH!

If the workers take a notion They can stop all speeding trains



'If the workers take a notion they can stop all speeding trains; every ship upon the ocean they can tie with mighty chains'

Joe Hill

Public transport across the North was brought to a complete standstill for the fourth time with by industry-wide strikes by bus and rail workers presented with a pay offer of exactly fuck all squared.

Workers have taken successful action and stopped buses and trains on the 1st, 15th, 16th and 22nd of December.

GMB, SIPTU and UNITE members across Metro, Ulsterbus and Northern Ireland Railways all voted overwhelmingly in favour of strike action - though bizarrely train drivers were not balloted, while this didn't impact on the strike it is quite obviously detrimental to any

idea or practical implementation of workers unity.

Business owners have been crying out as a result of the 'disruption', others have been using the strikers and other worker's disputes to attempt to leverage the DUP back into government. With a general public sector strike underway across the North today (18 January) workers are realising that only direct action will ensure satisfaction of their demands.

Hopefully this time, unlike the last public sector strike over a decade ago, the trade union leadership won't scupper further action in favour of lobbying and buttering up politicians in return for empty promises.

Craft Unionism:

Alive and Sitting on its Arse at Northern Ireland Railways



Presented with the opportunity to be part of the largest transport strike in almost a decade, train drivers' reps and/or full-time officials chose to opt for a sectional, craft union approach and not ballot members, apparently in the belief that a deal can be done with the company at some point in the future and that this is 'not the right time' to strike. Other workers seem to have correctly realised that it is the perfect time to exert the maximum pressure on the company and the other actors involved in the de facto imposition of a pay freeze, in real terms a cut of about 11%.

This is not the first time that the train driving grade has been left out of real or potential strike action on the transport network and poses the question as to who is seemingly determined to avoid industrial action in this grade at any cost, not least the cost of sabotaging potential unity. While train drivers were balloted for and supported today's general public sector strike in industrial terms the question remains - who will support drivers in the future if drivers do not support anyone now?

Genocide War Imperialism

100 Days of Israel's war on Gaza & Bloody Conflict Across the Globe



On the 15th of January the current Gaza-Israel 'war' entered its 100th day. Since the Hamas offensive on 7 October and the Israeli 'response' protests have taken place across the world and across Ireland on an almost daily basis. As the civilian death toll in Gaza reaches 30,000, 11,500 of them children, this conflict shows signs of escalating and has the potential to engulf the entire region in war.

Organise! unreservedly join demands for a ceasefire. This does not, despite what many seem to be claiming, equate to support for attacks on or kidnapping of civilians by Hamas nor is criticism of the actions of the state of Israel antisemitic. While we understand that the waving of Palestinian flags is for many a shorthand for expressing solidarity with the beleaguered inhabitants of Gaza we will not be joining in national

flag waving of any description. We demand an end to the genocide being carried out by the state of Israel.

In comparison with the numerous other conflicts around the world the number of civilians being slaughtered is staggering. More civilians in Gaza were massacred in the first few weeks of the slaughter than in 18 months of the war in Ukraine. More deaths will follow in the months after the war from disease and starvation amidst the destruction wrought by intense bombings.

Recent attacks by the USA and UK states are pushing this closer and closer to regional escalation. Sections of the Israeli and U.S. establishments seem intent on a showdown with Iran. Meanwhile, though it has dropped out of the news, the war in Ukraine continues with both sides seeking more

recruits for the slaughter and civilian deaths mounting.

Behind the headlines the decline of the imperial position of the US and the rise of China are stoking these and other conflicts across the globe. As the US fights to maintain its imperial position it will increasingly be held hostage by allies like Israel just as China will support its new allies who seek to benefit from the decline of the US.

These 'geo-politics' will lead not to a new era of peace but growing conflict and slaughter across the world. The decline of one empire is not the end of imperialism! Which power comes out on top remains to be seen and many are looking at China. Some on the 'left' are even relishing the possibility. The reality is that this will be felt in ongoing austerity, more attacks on workers, climate disaster, increasing displacement and an increasing refugee crisis, mass unemployment, more war and more slaughter.

There are no solutions to be found in supporting rival factions vying to be top of the imperialist heap in our global capitalist system. The only possibility of salvation lies in the action of the vast majority of the world's population, the working class and in their struggles against war, oppression and exploitation.

Today in the North we see the willingness of workers to engage in struggle, this is happening across the world. We need to join those struggles together and remember the reality of the power that lies within our grasp.

IWA Yangon Initiative

Worker Solidarity League of Burma Workers' Convergence: Strength in Solidarity during Adverse Times



Worker Solidarity League of Burma (WSLB) was organised in 2000 as a semi-underground association to fight for workers' rights in the emerging industrialization of the country and only one founder, Mr. Ye Naing Win, survives today. CCTU (Cooperating Committee of Trade Unions) was organised by 45 basic labour unions in 2012, with the objective of organising labour unions and bringing them together into strong coalitions. WSLB/CCTU has been engaging in day-to-day protection and promotion of labour rights, capacity development of labour unions, organising and networking with more labour unions, and striving to build genuine and strong labour federations at the township, divisional and national levels.

After the 2021 military coup, CCTU was outlawed by the SAC military government and it faced a lot of hardships like any other worker union and trade unions. Among all unions and trade federations, WSLB has, in its history of over 20 years,

maintained a reputation for serving only the interests of the working class, devoid of any partisan elements. Under these circumstances of Coup and civil war, the worker unions are divided into two groups as power politics by NUG (National Unity Government) leaning groups and SAC (State Administrative Council) leaning groups. WSLB tries very hard to firmly stand with the class interest over the war between the statist party's political interests. It has been federated with IWA Yangon Initiative aiming to build cross-border solidarity and true working-class internationalism with the other IWA affiliations.

Now, under the name of WSLB, the league held a Workers' Convergence with some unions from industrial zones. The objective of this convergence is to reconnect amongst the unions, introduce Anarcho-Syndicalism, share and discuss the issues from each different division of labour and

sector, find ways to cooperate, and finally build solidarity among the working class.

The highlight of discussion in convergence would be the recent victory of the strike in regards to the raise in minimum wage. Minimum wages have been revised from 4800 MMK to 5800 MMK (1.6 USD) per day through an allowance of 1,000 MMK on 1st October 2023. Young workers are trying to migrate abroad because of insufficient wages. The inflation and rise of commodities prices have forced the workers to fight with their self-consciousness. Moreover, at the most chaotic time of turmoil, not only the workers are clashed between two ruling classes in war but also the bourgeois class is exploited in every possible way in various workplaces, as there is no news, media, or labour unions or civil society organisations to monitor. On the bright side, we believe that mutual aid and solidarity will be the way of survival in this turmoil and the working masses will learn their true strength and inner merit. They will get inspiration from each other; they will learn from each other by themselves; they will protect each other by themselves; they will share the bittersweet victory among each other which is their class interest through solidarity. Therefore, this had been a good opportunity to advocate the concept of direct action, mutual aid and solidarity.

Original article at:

<https://iwa-yas.org/wslbs-workers-convergence-strength-in-solidarity-during-adverse-times/>

If Strike Pay Was £51k



In the two years without a government these MLA fuckers who have done fuck all (and who do worse than fuck all when they do sit) have been paid a staggering 9 million quid. Its wage reduction, crippling inflation, a crippled health service, austerity, shitty housing, soaring rent for us but pretty good fucking strike pay for the MLAs!

Capitalism's useful and dangerous Idiots



The new year started much as it ended in the Republic of Ireland. Violence against immigrants and an emboldened far-right. Using the tried and tested fascist tactic of scapegoating the far right have channelled rising discontent and anger at the housing crisis and spiralling costs and fomented and carried out attacks, violence, and arson against refugees.

While these fuckers blame immigrants the fact that the richest 1% of the population holds more than one third of the countries wealth tells another story.

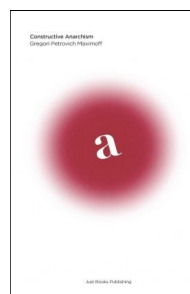
Seriously pissed off about the causes of homelessness, poverty, collapsing public services, mass immigration...? Get organised to fight the politicians and bosses - and lets kick the fascists off the streets!

Northern Anarcho-Syndicalist News from Organise!

Just Books Publishing



Just Books Publishing, set up by the Just Books Collective, has so far published its first two titles.



The first is a reprint of Gregori Maximoff's *Constructive Anarchism*, to mark the 100th year of existence of the International Workers Association (IWA) the Anarcho-Syndicalist

international founded in Berlin in 1922.

isbn 9781739723705

£7.99



The second title, now with a new cover, is Nick Heath's *The Idea*.

Anarchist Communism: Past, Present and Future - a welcome and new comprehensive work on anarchist communism,

this book seeks to rehabilitate the current of anarchist-communism. To make it better known and understood.

...a good substantial book, and much needed. Lucidly written, it provides a rich brew of engaging discussions of the 'Idea' (anarchist communism as a political philosophy), interesting vignettes of many individual anarchists, and a great historical account of the many anarchist communist organisations over the past 150 years...

(Brian Morris on *The Idea*)

isbn 9781739723712

£15.00

Available from:

<https://organiseanarchistsireland.com/shop/>

Victory!

Sacked Ansell workers receive compensation at last



After almost ten years fighting for justice, Ansell workers in Sri Lanka who were sacked for attempting to organise their workplace, have won the compensation they were seeking as justice. Here is yet another example of the power of international solidarity.

In October 2013, 11 members of the IndustriALL affiliated Free Trade Zone and General Services Employee Union (FTZGSEU) were sacked unjustly for organising their workplace at the Ansell factory in Sri Lanka. Ansell is an Australia-based multinational specialising in rubber products.

FTZGSEU union officials pursued Ansell through the courts in Sri Lanka without success. On 8 October 2015, Australian union officials from TCFUA, AMWU and CFMEU spoke at the Ansell shareholders meeting but to no avail. About 50 trade union activists in Melbourne demonstrated in support at the Ansell global HQ in Richmond, Victoria.

Although the courts in Sri Lanka found in the favour of the 11 sacked workers, the Ansell company appealed the decision and the issue continued to drag on. The 11 sacked workers resolved to continue fighting and having been abandoned by the union on whose behalf they were trying to organise, they sought help wherever they could find it. They reached out to numerous trade unions and workers

organisations around the world.

In February 2021, the General Secretary of the Asia Pacific Sub-Secretariat of the International Workers Association (IWA) received communication from the 11 sacked workers explaining their situation. The General Secretary forwarded the information to Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation affiliate Melbourne North.

Direct communication was opened between the 11 sacked workers and ASF Melbourne North who resolved to support the 11 sacked workers in their endeavours to achieve justice.

ASF Melbourne North organised a campaign of pickets at the global HQ of Ansell in Melbourne. IWA affiliates around the world sent protest emails to Ansell many times. ASF Melbourne North co-operated with Australia Asia Worker Links in protest actions against Ansell. The ASF Melbourne North received support from Workers Solidarity Alliance, US affiliate of the IWA and CNT-AIT France with research and reconnaissance in preparation for an international expansion of the solidarity campaign.

In December 2022, as a direct consequence of this campaign, Ansell management contacted officials of FTZGSEU seeking a resolution who put them in touch with the 11 sacked workers. The workers reiterated their demands as outlined in the industrial court. Ansell was able to delay court

proceedings by appealing decisions and Ansell indicated that they were willing to expedite the issue.

In May 2023, an agreement was reached between Ansell and the 11 sacked workers. The sacked workers abandoned their demand for reinstatement and Ansell agreed to pay the 11 sacked workers LKR 32,948,972 (approx. AUD 161,200) in compensation for lost wages. The 11 sacked workers expressed their satisfaction at the outcome.

In an increasingly globalised world, workers are set against workers by the artifice of nation-State jurisdictions. If workers in one country refuse to accept cuts in wage and reduction of conditions, the global bosses threaten to take their jobs offshore to where labour is cheaper and unions are weak. The billionaire owned media fuel resentment against 'foreign' workers. Under these circumstances, the international solidarity of workers everywhere that knows no borders is our greatest strength.

The IWA is distinguished by its conviction that capitalism cannot be reformed and the only solution to poverty, war, disease and destruction is to end capitalism forever and replace the government of people with the administration of things. The great potential of technology will be realised to abolish work and live in accordance of the principle; from each according to their ability to each according to their need.

The IWA is seeks to go beyond mere craft, trade or even industrial unionism as it is no longer fit for purpose to build global whole-of-class union to defend our interests as working-people, to advance our conditions of work in the present and build the society of the future now.

The Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation (ASF) is the Australian affiliate of the IWA.

(A) Centre Belfast

A new working class movement library and reading room



Comrades in Belfast are working on getting a new much needed space for the city's working class up and running. The name, deliberately reminiscent of the days of the old punk Anarchy Centre set up by the Just Books Collective back in the day however the (A) in this case stands for ateneo. From the, often indeed anarchist, centres of working class self education and cultural activity that emerged at the start of the 20th century across Spain and south America.

The (A) Centre will provide a radical new working class social space, library and reading room. Premises have recently been secured by not-for-profit Just Learning Ateneo: Labour History, Heritage

and Co-operation in Belfast. Work is ongoing to transform the space into a much needed resource for working class communities and activists of all backgrounds - promoting working class heritage, co-operation, self-education and solidarity. At a time when division seems as stark and entrenched as ever Belfast's working class is in need of such a space.

Work is ongoing and can be supported through an online crowdfunder at:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ACentreBelfast?utm_term=bpEz8NRyX



Llamando a Julia performing 16 December 23, Oh Yeah Centre, (A) Centre benefit.

Capitalism or the Planet

Nine months ago scientists at the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a 'final warning' that only 'swift and drastic action' could now avert 'irreconcilable damage' to the planet.

Extreme weather caused by climate breakdown has led to increased deaths from intensifying heatwaves in all regions, millions of lives and homes destroyed in droughts and

floods, millions of people facing hunger, death and displacement. Vital ecosystems are facing "increasingly irreversible losses".

Globally states and capitalism are racing towards environmental and human destruction. It is a choice between capitalism and the planet!

Get organised now!

There is no alternative.

Meanwhile... in Ballymena mostly dogshit



The Council have been busy in this run-up to Christmas, not so much with toon centre decorations and lights, late-night opening and parking management, but apparently overflowing dog shit bins. That smell that I thought was maybe shite scented candles and over-priced mulled wine was actually shite. However, instead of emptying them, the council has been focusing on the penalty fines message—throw your dogshit bag in the trees and we'll throw away the key-type stuff. Don't know about youse, but overflowing dog shite just about sums up my year. Happy whatever folks!

Get Involved: Help Build A Working Class Alternative.



Organise! is an anarcho-syndicalist group in Ireland which is affiliated to the International Worker's Association as 'friends of' section. We take inspiration from the self directed struggles of working-class people, and particularly the history and tradition of struggle epitomised by the IWA - the anarcho-syndicalist international. Our history goes back to the original formation of Organise! by the Ballymena and Antrim Anarchist Groups in 1985. We are a small, but growing, group of ordinary working class people who are fed up with being fucked about by the profit system, fed up with seeing our communities and workplaces torn apart by racism, patriarchy, nationalism and sectarianism, and sick of a greedy few getting rich off everyone else's backs.

We are actively working to promote solidarity in opposition to capitalism, the state, patriarchy and all other forms of oppression and hierarchy. The way we organise reflects the free society we want to create: one based on voluntary association, democratic participation and self-management.

Our members are workers, claimants, students, migrants, unemployed and other working-class people committed to building a libertarian communist union movement actively opposed to all forms of oppression and exploitation.

We want to improve everyday conditions for ourselves and other working class people, but we also struggle for the revolutionary transformation that can create a free and equal society, one based on mutual aid and co-operation. Sound crazy? Maybe it does, but in an era in which it is easier to imagine the end of the world than the end of capitalism the continuation of the present system is even crazier...



The current system isn't working – ill-health, stress and overwork affect more and more people while others are flung on the dole; for increasing amounts of workers it is precarity, zero hours contracts and the stress of being unable to plan or budget our lives; we live in a world of plentiful resources yet millions starve; some people make vast fortunes just because they own companies, land, property or natural resources, but those of us who create the wealth, work the land and build the properties are left struggling to survive; politicians tell us there's no money – not for wages, benefits or local amenities, but there's always plenty for war; both locally and globally the gap between the richest and the poorest sections of society has never been so great; instead of a war on poverty they've got a war on 'benefit fraud', while the same system that creates war, poverty and environmental destruction stigmatises, imprisons and deports the resultant refugees.

We don't think these things are inevitable or coincidental, we think they are related to capitalism – an economic system defined by wage slavery and the accumulation of profit out of other people's work. So we support all workers against their bosses in demanding higher wages and better conditions. We try to intervene practically to support workers engaged in disputes and are also active in our own workplaces and communities. Not only against exploitation but against the multiple oppressions faced by members of the working class in all our diversity.

But it's not just a question of trying to struggle by in a world of exploitation and oppression; we look to a future where workers control production and society in their own interests. And unlike some people who claim to oppose capitalism, we don't want to be a new set of leaders and we refuse to be led by anyone else. We advocate direct democracy in the workplace and through the commune in our communities – working in federation to ensure that the needs of all are met and that no-one is ever again in a position to oppress or exploit another human being.

If you are interested in these ideas, we'd encourage you to explore our website and consider getting involved.

We currently have members in Belfast, Cork, Derry, Lisburn, Newtownabbey and Portadown and are building the organisation on the basis of active involvement and participation. We aren't interested in meaningless 'paper' membership so you can't join by filling in an online form and bunging us a few quid.

To talk to us about joining get the ball rolling, check out our website at <https://organiseanarchistsireland.com> and send an email to:

organiseasi@gmail.com

